

New York State EMT-CC to Paramedic Bridge Program Frequently Asked Questions

1. How long is this program?

Moving at a pace that is most conducive to part-time learners and allowing for holiday breaks, this program will run for a period of 14 months.

2. With what frequency will this program be offered?

It is our intention to offer this program approximately three times per year, with a new program beginning in April and October. Programs will run as long as a need is identified and is authorized by the New York State DOH Bureau of EMS.

3. Is there a limit to how many students may participate in each course?

Yes. Limits are set by local course sponsorships based on their resources, and how many students they can accommodate. Students will be seated in each program on a first come-first served basis. Applicants received beyond enrollment maximums will be contacted by Northwell Health Administration for alternative options.

4. How many hours per week should I expect to dedicate to my studies while enrolled in this program?

Depending upon current EMT-CC experience and knowledge, as well as individual learning styles and needs, students should prepare to dedicate between 12 and 16 hours per week to their studies.

5. Will I have to perform ambulance or clinical rotations?

No clinical or ambulance rotations are required as part of this program. Participants applying to this program will have to have clinical experience at the EMT-CC level, and an endorsement from their agency medical director. See [NYS DOH BEMS Policy# 17-07 EMT-Critical Care Certification Sunset/Transition](#) for particulars.

6. What happens if my EMT-CC credentials expire during this program?

Program requirements dictate that all applicants be currently credentialed as EMT-CCs at the start of this program. Students must maintain credentials at the minimum of an EMT throughout this program. Students are strongly discouraged from relinquishing their CC level credentials! Students who for whatever reason are unable to complete the Bridge Program and downgraded to an EMT will not be eligible to reenter the program, nor will they be able to recertify as a CC having disqualified themselves from the CME renewal program.

7. What is the definition of continuous practice?

Please refer to NYS DOH BEMS [NYS DOH BEMS documentation](#) for definition.

8. What if I already have the required textbook?

Students who may already have the required text need not purchase another. Students must however purchase the secondary option listed on our website (package without textbook) which includes the publisher's on-line course access, FISDAP assessments and ECG book, all of which will be utilized throughout this program.

9. What material will be covered in this course?

The material covered in this course will be the material identified in "Gap" analysis provided by the New York State Department of Health, Bureau of EMS, it identifies the missing areas between the existing EMT-CC curriculum and the National EMS Education Guidelines for Paramedic. The students will then be assessed for knowledge within context of the National EMS Education Guidelines. There is an assumption that your experience as an EMT-CC has prepared you sufficiently, and you are knowledgeable of, the EMT-CC curriculum. If you are not fully competent with the EMT-CC curriculum, you should delay taking this course until you have sufficiently reviewed that material.

10. How is the didactic class conducted?

This is an online course requiring students to read a significant amount of material and also be self-directed in their learning activities. The activities required to be completed during the course should not be considered the only materials the students need to review. Students should also consider the various learning activities contained on the textbook platform, utilizing the quizzes, flashcards, e-Book, audio book, and other features to achieve a successful outcome. Students should feel free to access alternative sources on their own, including YouTube videos, workbooks, or other online materials. If you are not able to be a self-directed learner, this course may not be able to meet your needs.

11. Are all of the quiz questions and exam questions contained in the presentations?

No they are not. This is intentionally done to have the student go back to the textbook and look up and confirm the various concepts as a learning activity.

12. How will my retention of program knowledge be assessed?

Students will be required to take and pass Paramedic-level FISDAP examinations at the conclusion of each module. Please remember that the Bridge Program is only providing knowledge identified as being in "the gap" between the current EMT-CC and Paramedic curriculums. Exams will be assessing not only the "gap" material, but also the information participants are responsible for mastering as an EMT-CC. In addition to learning the gap material, students should also be simultaneously reviewing content contained within the entire module of study so as to best prepare for exams and assessments.

13. How can I prepare to take the FISDAP Unit Examinations?

The learning management system for the textbook contains a variety of activities, including the Test Prep feature. It is strongly recommended that the students use this activity, as well as the examination preparation activities on the FISDAP platform to prepare for the exams so they can see what types of questions will be contained on the Unit and Comprehensive Examinations. Also, each module has a study guide for material on the specific FISDAP unit examination to help guide the student for the examination.

14. What is a passing grade on the FISDAP exams?

A passing grade on any [FISDAP](#) exam is considered 70% or better.

15. What happens if I fail a FISDAP unit examination?

Students who fail a unit exam will have an opportunity to retest that exam within the first week of the next scheduled section. Students who fail a unit exam on a second attempt will be separated from the program. Each failed unit will only allow a single retest within the timeframe allotted. This retest will be graded as pass/fail based on the retest score alone.

16. If I am separated from the program due to two exam failures, can I re-apply to the next bridge course?

Yes. Students may apply and re-enter as a new student in a future program. Students will begin anew, with no previous units completed being credited. Tuition and educational material fees (as required) must be paid again in full.

17. When/where will I have to appear for class?

All didactic portions of this program will be delivered on-line through Northwell's proprietary learning management platform. Students will have to appear at a pre-selected participating ALS Course Sponsor for skills instruction. During the application process, students will select from a list of participating local ALS Course Sponsors for which they may align with. At the time of selection, applicants will have all exam and skills session dates listed so that they can render an informed decision as to which course sponsor they will select.

18. In choosing a supporting ALS Course Sponsor for skills, must I select from my region?

Students may select from any available participating ALS course sponsor listed on our site. Students do not necessarily have to attend within their region and may opt for whichever location is most convenient for them.

19. What are the costs associated with this program?

Course tuition has been set at \$2,000 and is payable by the student at the time of application to this program. Once a student completes this program and passes their New York State Paramedic written exam, their agency may seek reimbursement from the New York State DOH Bureau of EMS in the amount of \$1,500. Students will also be required to purchase and utilize a learning supplement package containing; textbooks, on-line learning aides, test prep, testing licenses, and other materials. These packages have been pre-selected, and a discount negotiated with the publisher. For the most current pricing and ordering information please see

LearnEMT.org. Additionally, because each course sponsor will be providing instruction in only those skills not currently within the scope of practice of an EMT-CC, local course sponsors are being encouraged to offer students additional/optional skills or extra-help sessions. If conducted, external course sponsors may charge an additional fee for these sessions. Any fees associated with these sessions will be posted and made known to students at the time of program application.

20. What happens if I need to (voluntarily) withdraw from the program?

As long as the student is in good academic standing, a student may elect to withdraw from a course and enroll in a subsequent course within one (1) year of their withdrawal without loss of tuition. The student will be credited, in the subsequent course, with all work completed up to the last successfully passed Fisdap unit examination. Refunds due the student will be in accordance with the established refund policy. Students failing to re-enroll within one (1) calendar year of their official withdrawal date will need to re-apply to the program and pay additional course fees and tuition as if they were a new student. No credit for previous completed work will be granted for students re-enrolling in the course after one (1) calendar year.

21. How rigid are the performance timelines?

Students will be required to complete required coursework within prescribed timeframes to ensure that they do not fall behind. All program participants must complete unit examinations within the same timeframes and performance milestones will be established and strictly adhered to.

22. Once in the program, who do I contact with questions, concerns or for information?

Each program will have at least one New York State Paramedic-level Certified Instructor Coordinator (CIC) assigned. Students will be encouraged to communicate with their designated CIC for all program-related matters.

23. Once I complete this program, am I eligible for National Registry certification?

Unlike the Paramedic Original Program here at Northwell Health, this program has not been approved by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP) or the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). Therefore, students are not eligible for National Registry exams upon completion of this program.

24. As a “bridged” Paramedic, will I ever be eligible for National Registry certification?

Like any other Paramedic who has graduated from an unaccredited Paramedic Program, you may request advanced standing in an accredited Program and pursue national certification through those means.

25. Has this program been evaluated for college level learning (college credits)?

Unlike all other programs here at the Northwell Health Emergency Medical Institute, this program has not been evaluated by the National College Credit Recommendation Service (NCCRS) for college level learning hours.

*This document will be updated on a continual basis, as new inquiries are received.